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The Rochester Philatelic Association, PO Box 10206 Brighton Station, Rochester, NY 14610 <http://www.rpastamps.org>

Last Few Meetings of the Season

Won't you join us for the last three meetings in May and June before our summer break? They will be held on Thursday, May 28, June 11 and 25. We'll have our annual Strawberry night on the 25th. We expect to see you there!

RPA Elections

It's that time again for RPA election of officers and Board. You'll find a ballot enclosed in this issue that may be brought to an RPA meeting or mailed. Ballots must be received by our June 25 meeting. Under the new bylaws revision, officers will be elected to a 2 year term. The Board position remains a 3 year term. Here's the July 2009 to June 2011 candidate slate, in alphabetical order:

President: [Dave Bombard](#)

Vice President: [Joe Doles](#)

Treasurer: [Art Glaser](#) or [Dave Robinson](#)

Corresponding Secretary: [Tom Fortunato](#)

Recording Secretary: [Diane Bombard](#)

Board of Governors (through June 2012):

[John Kellas III](#) or [Chuck Schultz](#) or [Frank Tritto](#)

Donation to Club Archives Received from Life Member Gordon Morison

A treasure trove of items was sent to the RPA this past winter from Potomac, Maryland based member Gordon Morison who was active in the club in the 1950's and 1960's.

Gordon and his late wife Mary were both former RPA presidents and officers in the

many stamp shows run by the RPA, including the 1963 Golden Anniversary extravaganza at Midtown Mall and the 1968 RPA/APS Convention initiating the "Champion of Champions."



Perhaps most intriguing was Gordon's message to take care in opening the 20 pound package of documents and other RPA memorabilia he was sending to the club, especially the bouquet of flowers from the 1963 50th anniversary banquet. The flowers were creations made from used stamps and quite impressive!

Items in the box covered RPA activities from 1957 to 1970 and included membership records, photographs, show programs, souvenirs, and much more. It will take several more months to sort through everything. Much of the material will eventually appear on the RPA web site on the Archives pages.

This Hinges & Tongs issue is ready a little early to have it ready in time for ROPEX. Copies were given to members at our May 14 meeting at the ESL Center and to those who visited the club table during the show.

ROPEX Prep Night

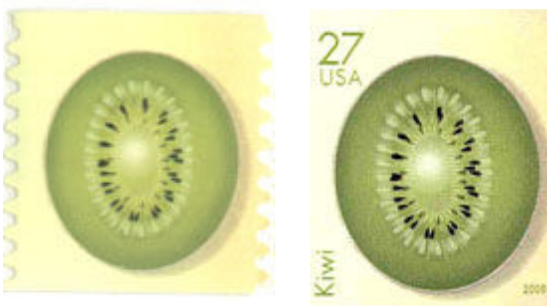


An amazing amount of work goes into getting everything together for ROPEX. While there is a dedicated core group on the show committee, we rely on every member to help out.

So it was with our annual ROPEX Prep Night meeting, held this year on April 9. About 30 members attended that meeting and worked at label placing, dot sealing and stamp sticking stations getting nearly 2,000 pre-show flyers ready for mailing to collectors in the eastern U.S. and Canada.

With all those hands the job only took a little over an hour to finish. Thanks one and all!

Discovery Copies of a Major Missing Color Error Found in the Rochester Area



There are 5 different designs on every roll of 100 tropical fruit stamps paying the 27 cent postcard rate. There are only two plate number singles in the roll, V1111111, found every 40th stamp only on the pomegranate design. Stamp Ventures was the printer and every "1" in the plate number represents a

separate color.

Employees of a local business bought two rolls of the stamps shortly after they were issued in May 2008 at the Ridgemont Plaza Post Office in Greece and started using the stamps. One of the office workers noticed that the kiwi stamp was missing its denomination and pulled them off one at a time as she came across them on the roll, placing them on salvage coil liner paper.

A few weeks ago she brought the seven kiwi stamps home with the intentions of bringing them back to the post office for replacements of "good ones." Luckily, her husband figured they may be valuable and decided to contact Tom Fortunato, a fellow member of the Greece Choral Society, to see what they had.

A 600 dpi computer scan of the 7 stamps showed no trace of the dark apple green ink found on the normal stamp. However nay additional evidence was missing—additional stamps from the rolls as well as the key plate number singles that should be missing a critical "1" in the color sequence of digits.

After Tom asked if any more mint stamps were around, the man and his wife scrounged around the office and sure enough found the remaining 40 stamps from the second roll bought nearly a year ago, with one plate single.

As of this time the remainder roll and seven kiwi singles are expected to be sent to the APS for expertizing. Jay Bigalke of Linn's Stamp News is also interested in examining at least one of the kiwi singles first-hand before writing about the lucky find. Should they come back as genuine color errors they will be listed in the Scott's Specialized U.S. Catalogue and probably sold or consigned to an auctioneer.

Postally used examples have definitely been through the mail stream and were all sent to addresses in the Rochester area in the past year, so check your kiloware carefully! For now, the owners wish to remain anonymous, but more of the story will come to light!

Stamp Expo 400 Awaits You!



Make plans now to attend one of the region's largest stamp shows this year, Stamp Expo 400, taking place September 25-27 in Albany, NY, just a 4 hour drive down the thruway for most of us in Rochester.

The event features up to 125 dealers from the U.S. and Canada, top exhibits from the best collections in both countries, UNPA and IGPC first day ceremonies, seminars and meetings from regional and national societies and organizations, and much more.

This one-time event is the conclusion of the State of New York's year long celebration honoring three men important to our region's history, Samuel de Champlain, Henry Hudson and Robert Fulton. It marks to the day the 100th anniversary of a similar celebration held in 1909. The show itself is sponsored by the New York Federation of Philatelic Societies and has received national exhibition status from the American Philatelic Society. Several RPA members are active in the planning and execution of the show.

Read more details online at <http://www.stampexpo400.org>, or find out more at any RPA meeting.

"Stamp" Lickin' Good



Did you know... A campaign to get Colonel Sanders of Kentucky Fried Chicken fame on a postage stamp has been active since October of 2006?

Famous actress Pamela Anderson has joined with members of PETA (People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals) to renounce the effort.

Her letter sent to Postmaster General John E. Potter in part said, "Honoring a man whose legacy involves breaking animals' bones and scalding animals to death in de-feathering tanks is contrary to the values of most compassionate citizens, and I hope that you'll deny KFC's request. How about another Elvis stamp instead?"

Sign the "Help Give the Colonel a Stamp of Approval" petition, if you like, at: <http://www.kfc.com/about/petition.asp>

Local Proprietary Connection



6 cent proprietary stamp from H.H.W. and Company of Rochester advertising "safe remedies."

It was offered for sale on eBay described as "RS 258-D 1881" in February for \$10.

A little research turned up the following information about the company that was located in a large building at 60-72 North St. Paul Street. This excerpted information comes from the following web site where many more company stamps, seals and ephemera can be seen: <http://www.rdhinstl.com/mm/rs254.htm>

"Hubert H. Warner, founder of the Warner Observatory for the study of astronomy, was the founder of Warner's Safe Remedies of Rochester, New York. The office building which it occupied was shared with a business selling fire and burglar proof safes. Mr. Warner surely had a sense of humor.

"Warner's Safe Kidney & Liver Cure sold for \$1.50 a bottle, and the six-cent private die stamps [depicted here] were produced for use with it. The small stamp was issued first, with one delivery of 340,000 on June 14, 1881.

"Warner used facsimile labels on his products after the tax on proprietary medicines was repealed. There are versions datelined October 1, 1883 from Toronto, Ontario and August 1, 1887 from Rochester.

"Warner used private die stamps once more to pay the Spanish American War proprietary tax. 64,000 stamps were printed.

"Investigations preceding the passage of the Food & Drugs Act of 1906 were very critical of Warner's products. Samuel Hopkins Adams, writing for Collier's in 1905 said that Warner's Safe Cure had enough alcoholic content to serve as a 'booze' and that it was managed and controlled by the New York and Kentucky Distilling Companies,"...which do not pretend to remedy anything but thirst."

By the way, you may be interested in learning more about the Warner Observatory mentioned above. Completed in 1882 and located on the south side of East Avenue, it was the fourth largest U.S. observatory at the time and the first U.S. observatory open to the public. Read more about it here: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Warner_Observatory

What's the Story?



Would you pay \$998.98 for this advertising cover? Somebody did back in February on

eBay against an opening bid of \$75.

Description: "Up for auction a Winchester advertising envelope from Lares, Puerto Rico to Haydenville, Mass. U.S.A. Nice sharp image of a woman on horse back with a Winchester rifle. Post mark is a June 16 1942 Lares, P.R. because of WWII it was opened, examined and resealed before it was sent on to the Haydenville Brass Works. Nice color with very little of the post mark on the image. The back has advertising in Spanish for arms, flash lights and batteries. The condition of the paper is good to very good it has been in a collection by the then Post Master of Haydenville since 1942."

A total of 6 collectors placed 10 bids on this lot. Is there more to it than just being a nice looking advertising cover? Is it a rare censor tape, an unusual rate, or something else? Maybe you know!

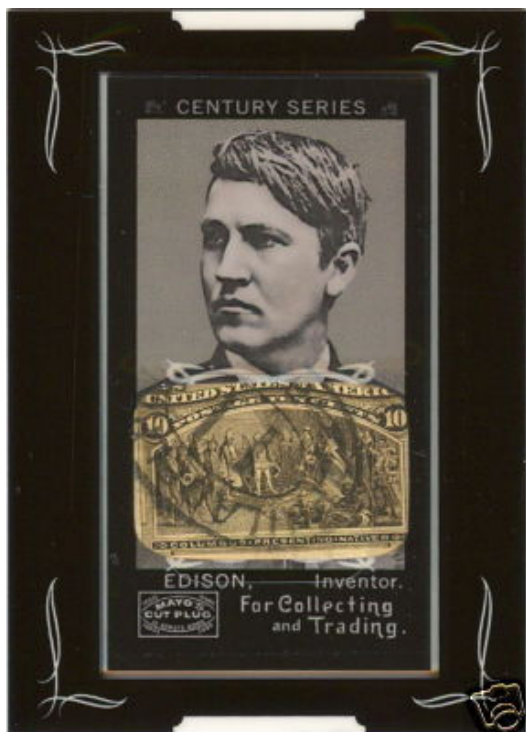
Greek Stamp Ring Advertisements



Philatelic and non-philatelic organizations alike are being offered "stamp rings" by the Greek Post to help promote their group or sponsored event. They are not postmarks but printed add-on cachets postal officials will put on letters and envelopes at specific post offices... for a fee, of course!

The price? One-time fees for the dies are €210 (about \$265) plus €19 (about \$24) for each day they are used.

**Premium Collector Relic Cards
Use 10 cent Columbian Stamps**



One of the latest crazes in collecting the past few years are items called “relic cards,” cards that encapsulate some sort of valuable item related to theme of the card. They are most prevalent in sports cards, where items such as bat slivers, game-worn jersey swatches and autographs are placed in limited-edition premium prize cards found among one in several thousand “regular” ones.

The 2008 Topps Mayo Century Series Thomas Edison Relic Card, of which only 100 were made, features a used 10 cent Columbian stamp. It’s doubtful that sound stamps were used, but it’s difficult to tell from the photo. At auction these cards have sold for around \$40.

While Edison had quite a few bright ideas in his day, this surely wasn’t one of them!

U.S. Stamp Program: May-August

The lineup of new issues is still shaking out with this time of year becoming the annual USPS rate transition period, but here’s what we know so far.

May 1 – 44 cent Flag, 44 ct Wedding Rings, 61 cent Wedding Cake
May 7 – 44 cent The Simpsons booklet of 20



May 8 – 44 cent Flag coil, King/Queen of Hearts
May 11– 44 cent Seabiscuit envelope
44 cent Forever envelope
May 15 – 44 cent Mary Lasker [ROPEX FDOS]
May 29 – 44 cent Bob Hope



June 5 – 44 cent Flag booklet
June 10 – 44 cent Celebrate
June 11 – 44 cent Anna Julia Cooper
June 12 – 64 cent dolphin



June 28 – 79 cent Zion National Park
98 cent Grand Teton National Park
July – 44 cent Gulf Coast Lighthouses (5)
August 6 – 44 cent Flags of Our Nation (10)
August 11 – 44 cent Early TV Memories (20)
August 21 – 44 cent Hawai’i Statehood



Upcoming Area Stamp Shows

June 12-14 [St. Catharines](#) Royal 2009 Royale
Hosted by the St. Catharines Stamp Club,
sponsored by the Royal Philatelic Society of
Canada. Hours: TBD. Exhibits, Canada Post,
show cachets and cancels.

Email: stuart.keeley@sympatico.ca

Website: <http://www.royal2009.ca/>

June 28 [West Seneca](#) Coin, Stamp, Postcard
& Collectibles Show

Harvey D. Morin VFW Post 2940, 965 Center
Rd. 10-4. Bourse.

Contact: Victor Drajem, (716)656-8080.

Next RPA Meetings

Thursday, [May 28](#)..... U.S. Beer Stamps by
Mark Scheuer

Thursday, [June 11](#).... ATA DVD Presentation

Thursday, [June 25](#).... Annual Business Meeting
and Strawberry Night

Contact Us

President

Ray Stone - 585-266-2524

Corresponding Secretary/H&T Editor

Tom Fortunato - 585-225-6822

stampmf@frontiernet.net

Article submissions always welcome!

Who out there is planning to attend APS Stampshow in Pittsburgh August 6-9? Car pools are starting to form and we have some good leads about relatively inexpensive hotels just a few miles south of the city. If interested, see, phone or email Tom through the contact information above.

The Rochester Philatelic Association
PO Box 10206 Brighton Station
Rochester, NY 14610-0206

RPA Meetings are at Twelve Corners Presbyterian Church
1200 Winton Rd South, just south of Brighton High School

